

New Castle City Planning Commission Meeting took place on July 23, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the City of New Castle's Town Hall.

Members Present: David Bird, Chair
Joe DiAngelo
Dorsey Fiske
Susan Marinelli
Josephine Moore
Florence Smith
Vera Worthy

Members Absent: Jonathan Justice
William Simpson, Co-Chair

Also Present: Jeff Bergstrom, Inspection Dept.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bird at 6:30 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum declared.

Approval of Minutes – A motion was made and seconded to approve the June minutes as distributed. The motion was approved.

Budget – The City has approved a budget but funding for this body is not yet known.

Proposed Zoning Changes – Mr. Bergstrom reported City Council is questioning drive-through windows. It is unknown if the Planning Commission will be asked to review drive-through window language. Some property owners are questioning other language. Council may revisit this subject in August. There are currently businesses using drive-through windows (credit union, pharmacy, bank) and may need to be reviewed individually. Any language would apply to the Gateway District only.

Other Business – Mr. Bird reviewed the progress of the parking subcommittee. It was the consensus of the group that the revised survey should be distributed in September. Also discussed was possibly placing the survey on the City website, identifying drop-off points, and print extra surveys and place some at the City office. Alternative means to do the survey was discussed (City website, library, possible town hall meeting). It was suggested that an inventory be done to determine available parking in the City and its usage through the year. The Historical New Castle Alliance submitted a grant application with New Castle County Economic Development; Linda Ratchford provided details of the application. The subcommittee will meet again at 6 p.m. on 8/27/12 prior to the Planning Commission meeting. Commissioners are invited to attend.

The Commission needs to determine what it wants to do from a planning standpoint on the neighborhood study and if what the Planning Commission produces can be used in the next comprehensive plan. Definitions of the historic district versus mid-town area need to be clarified. Boundaries of various neighborhoods are also in need of clarification. Parameters of the historic district are outlined in the Code and cannot be changed. The Planning Commission can identify commonly-known neighborhoods for its study. (*Lengthy discussion.*) Mr. Bird suggested getting a large “working” map of the City for the August meeting.

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Commissioners' Comments – None.

Next Meeting & Adjournment – The next meeting is scheduled for 8/27/12 at 6:30 p.m.
There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Turner
Stenographer